

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 458
By Hargett

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Craigmont High School junior Kesmet Kerley on being part of the winning team at the 1997 ThinkQuest international competition.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is extremely proud that our state is at the forefront of expanding knowledge through the widespread use of the World Wide Web by our high school students; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly was pleased to learn that a team from Craigmont High School, including junior Kesmet Kerley, won the 1997 ThinkQuest Math and Science contest; and

WHEREAS, the 1997 ThinkQuest contest challenged students in grades 7-12 to use the Internet as a communications medium and create an interesting and educational site on the World Wide Web in collaboration with peers at another location; and

WHEREAS, the winning Craigmont web site, "Mission To Mars", is an interactive educational site that shares information about the planet and gives participants a unique perspective on what is involved with the design of a mission to the "Red Planet"; and

WHEREAS, many of Kesmet Marie Kerley's major accomplishments have resulted from her tremendous passion for music. She showed promise at an early age, starting playing the piano at age three and the saxophone at age 12; and

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WHEREAS, as a pianist, Kesmet has played in the excellent Craigmont Jazz Band, accompanied the Craigmont ninth grade choir, won the Vivace Club (the branch of the Beethoven Club) Moderately Difficult III cup, and received a rare perfect score at the local Guild (National Piano Playing Auditions); and

WHEREAS, as an accomplished alto saxophonist, Kesmet has medaled three consecutive times at the All-West Tennessee Solo and Ensemble and made the All-West Tennessee Honor Bands for three consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, she attended the Memphis City Schools Music and Technology Workshop and learned to play bari saxophone at the University of Memphis Chamber Music Workshop; and

WHEREAS, she also participates as a valued member of the popular Bartlett Community Concert Band and the excellent Craigmont High School Band; and

WHEREAS, Kesmet had the rare honor of serving as the Craigmont Junior High School Band student conductor for the 1995-1996 school year. Under her expert guidance, the band won first place in the 1995 Merry Christmas Memphis Parade competition and she received a top rating for conducting at the Concert Festival in Jackson; and

WHEREAS, her ambition is to become a high school band director; and

WHEREAS, Kesmet has many accomplishments outside of the music field; she was a member of the National Junior Honor Society for two years, received the prestigious William H. Sweet Award for two consecutive years, and is currently ranked 20th in a class of 290; and

WHEREAS, in the finest tradition of the "Volunteer State", Kesmet generously and enthusiastically contributes her time and considerable expertise as a member of many extracurricular clubs and activities; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we pause to specially recognize one of our "Best and Brightest" students; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we congratulate Kesmet Kerley on her numerous academic accomplishments and on winning the 1997 ThinkQuest competition, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.